



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2019

**COMMUNITY DESIGN STUDIO
7506 E. INDIAN SCHOOL ROAD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251**

PRESENT: Carol Miraldi, Vice Chair
Ross Cromarty, Commissioner
William James, Commissioner
Amanda Nash, Commissioner
Rachel Putman, Commissioner

ABSENT: Jennifer Fabiano, Chair
Joe Meli, Commissioner

STAFF: Brandon McMahon, Associate Planner
Brian Biesemeyer, Scottsdale Water Director
Adam Yaron, Project Coordination Liaison
Jaime Peterman, Citizen Advisor

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission was called to order at 5:00 p.m. A formal roll call was conducted, confirming members present as stated above.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

1. Approve Draft Summary Meeting Minutes October 23, 2019

Vice Chair Miraldi called for comments and/or corrections. There were none.

COMMISSIONER JAMES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 23, 2019 MEETING AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER NASH SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 5-0 WITH VICE CHAIR MIRALDI,

AND COMMISSIONERS CROMARTY, JAMES, NASH AND PUTMAN VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Scottsdale Water Update

Brian Biesemeyer, Scottsdale Water Director, stated that the Water Department is municipally owned, operating as an enterprise. They are funded via rents and service fees. Scottsdale was one of the first cities in Arizona to use recycled water for golf courses. The water campus was developed in 1988. It serves as a water reclamation plant and an advanced water treatment plant. Land uses include recharge and golf course irrigation. Because of the water campus, Scottsdale was the first city in the Valley to come into safe yield, meaning it puts more water in the ground than it takes out. A brief video highlighting the Department was played.

In July of 2018, the ADEQ asked for a utility to come forward and have the first direct potable reuse permit. In September of 2018, direct discussions began with Scottsdale Water to become the first permittee. In February of 2019, Scottsdale Water applied for the first facility DPR permit in Arizona as a demonstration project. The permit was granted on September 9, 2019. The Water Department does a significant amount of indirect potable reuse, which involves treating the water, putting it back in the aquifer and then later pumping out several miles away. He clarified that the permit submitted was only for demonstration purposes. It is intended for use at the water campus or in producing water for beverage use.

The goals of the permit are:

- To assist ADEQ
- To normalize public perception
- To demonstrate technology

Water staff worked with Canal Convergence and were able to convince ten local breweries to brew beer and have a showcase. The event was held on November 8th and 9th. Canal Convergence hosted 70,000 attendees over two days as a certified zero waste event. The judging panel consisted of four experts and the Mayor. A Scottsdale brewery was chosen as the winner. The Water Department manned a tent area and educated the public about recycled water. The Water Department has hosted tours of the facility and also sponsors a water academy twice per year.

In response to a question from Vice Chair Miraldi, Mr. Biesemeyer stated that the permit has a term of five years and is renewable. The Department intends to continue to renew it.

Commissioner Cromarty asked whether this impacts the contracted amounts of effluent treated water sold to the 91st Avenue treatment plant that goes to the Palo Verde Nuclear Power Plant. Mr. Biesemeyer said there are no impacts.

Commissioner Cromarty asked if the flow is separated and treated independently of the effluent treated by the 92nd Street plant. Mr. Biesemeyer stated that in the 1970's, Scottsdale was looking for methods of getting rid of its wastewater. They

teamed up with five Valley cities to form the sub regional consortium. They designed and constructed large sewer mains that collect wastewater and send it to the 91st Avenue wastewater treatment plant owned by the City of Phoenix. Because of this agreement, the City is now a ten percent owner in the plant. The City sends between 10 and 12 million gallons of water per day to that facility for treatment. The water campus came later in the 1990's as a result of the City wishing to keep its water resource for its own benefits.

The City has large lift stations that take water sewage south of Shea. That station pumps wastewater from the Shea Corridor area up north to the water campus.

Commissioner Cromarty asked whether the Department has been able to address further the tertiary cleaning of the water. His understanding is there is a salt problem as well as a hormone problem. Mr. Biesemeyer stated that the cleansing process includes reverse osmosis, including detection of a number of compounds. They have not had any of them pass through the reverse osmosis and disinfection process.

Commissioner Cromarty noted all the cleansing and high tech filtration and cleaning methods and asked whether this leads to a deficit in the qualities that give natural potable water its taste. Mr. Biesemeyer described the remineralization process for restoring taste.

Commissioner James asked whether the potable water is in the system. Mr. Biesemeyer stated that it is not in the system, and is turned on and off as needed. He reiterated that it is currently in the demonstration stages at this time. Currently they do not anticipate steps beyond the demonstration stage.

Commissioner James asked about the cost of the process. Mr. Biesemeyer stated that because the process provides a water resource, the costs are comparable and make the City competitive. Another advantage is that Scottsdale has a water resource that other cities do not have. The City has been able to store in the ground three years of water usage above and beyond what the City uses since the water campus was established.

Commissioner Nash noted that in 2018, the State was talking about leaving water in Lake Mead, however it was later determined that this was not allowable. Mr. Biesemeyer stated that there are processes to leave water. Scottsdale has left some of its allocation in the river as a bank. The City cannot do this directly and must do so through direct contract holders, such as the Central Arizona Project.

Commissioner Putman asked about the potential for additional demonstrations going forward. Mr. Biesemeyer said he anticipates being at Canal Convergence for a few more years, based on the positive feedback. Mr. Biesemeyer provided copies of the water quality report to commissioners.

3. NAC Participation in G.A.I.N 2019

Mr. Yaron stated that Commissioners Nash and James attended three neighborhood events. He showed photographs of citywide G.A.I.N. events. Issue resolution to items brought forward from Commissioners Nash and James included communication with the Office of Citizen Service, Sanitation, Code Enforcement, Transportation, Streets and SRP. A couple of work items were identified by Commissioners, the first brought by Commissioner James pertaining traffic concerns of a local resident. That item was passed forward to the Transportation Department for follow-up.

Commissioner Nash had provided a statement regarding the SRP irrigation ditch at 70th Street. The Commission had previously voted to fund clean-up in the amount of \$2,900. City staff has met in the field with residents, Code Enforcement and SRP to bring education and awareness to residents who continue to be challenged in appropriately operating and maintaining their community irrigation infrastructure at this particular location. To this end, Code Enforcement has committed to continued monitoring of the areas near the irrigation ditch at 70th Street. Additionally, SRP will be noticing their customers by first class mail of the possible penalties that could be brought against customers should they not operate and maintain the community irrigation infrastructure appropriately.

Unfortunately, the owner of the property adjacent to the ditch is not an irrigation user himself, however City code requires that he must maintain the property for the full length of his lot. For this area, he has concrete patched his portion of the ditch, in order to avoid the maintenance issue. He also has cameras in place to identify where individuals are intentionally choosing to dam the ditch. Department staff is working with the individual and SRP to ensure a corrective action, first by communication and secondly by citation.

4. 2019 Spirit of Scottsdale Award Program – Business Solicitation

Brandon McMahon, Associate Planner, was present to discuss approaches to increase awareness for the 2019 Spirit Award Program within the business community.

In response to a question from Vice Chair Miraldi, Mr. McMahon stated that as of this morning, there are still only four nominations.

Commissioner Nash asked about communications with the Chamber, Rotary and service organizations. Mr. McMahon stated he is unaware of any publications going to them. To date, staff continues solicitations through social media, in the Scottsdale Water bill and through ads in the Scottsdale Update and the Scottsdale Independent, however, nothing business-specific.

Commissioner James stated that the award is about a person or group providing service to Scottsdale. Likely candidates would be organizations that see their mission as providing services in the City, such as Rotary. Perhaps it would be worthwhile to request five minutes on the organization's meeting agenda to discuss the award. Mr. McMahon noted that in the past, organizations have just been

citizen-nominated. Mr. Yaron stated that staff can work with the Community Assistance Office to get a list of individuals or organizations that they work with to get solicitations out. Vice Chair Miraldi suggested even just an email to the organizations.

Commissioner James commented that an individual would have to be highly motivated to go through the process of a nomination. Randomly notifying people about the award is not as likely to produce as much response as notifying an organization that may see some benefit for itself in having recognition. Commissioner Nash cited churches and interfaith organizations as an example.

Mr. McMahon added that the notification is still running in P&Z links, newsletters and has gone to all boards and commission members. Vice Chair Miraldi suggested the possibility of contacting past nominees that were not chosen to see if they would like to re-nominate their choice from a previous year.

In response to a question from Commissioner Cromarty, Mr. Mahon stated that submissions close at the first of the year and will be brought to the Commission at the January regularly scheduled meeting with presentation at a Council meeting in February. Vice Chair Miraldi suggested the possibility of extending the dates. Mr. McMahon said the Commission would have to act on this and then staff would have to get in touch with the Office of Communication. Commissioner Cromarty suggested a short presentation before a baseball game or other large event.

Mr. Yaron stated that given the limited time available, this may be challenging. Staff is working with the Complete Count Committee on the census. As part of this, staff has access to a list of all the interfaith organizations and other volunteer organizations. He also noted that the Commission has cancelled its meeting for December. The next time they would be discussing this item would be in January during a regular meeting with full nominations. If the Commission decides to extend the deadline, a new timeline will be developed. Commissioner Nash expressed interest in going until the end of January. Commissioner Cromarty renewed his suggestion to develop a partnership with an organization to assist in encouraging interest. Perhaps January is too tight a timeline. He suggested the possibility of partnering with Downtown businesses or galleries. Commissioner James stated the importance of contacting organizations for whom recognition of this sort would be a good thing.

Commissioner Putman pointed out that there are devoted citizens who organize G.A.I.N. and other events; perhaps City employees could nominate these individuals. Further discussion ensued regarding extension of the timeline.

COMMISSIONER JAMES MOVED TO EXTEND NOMINATIONS FOR THE SPIRIT AWARDS UNTIL THE END OF FEBRUARY (IF NOT AGAINST CITY PROCEDURES). COMMISSIONER CROMARTY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 5-0 WITH VICE CHAIR MIRALDI, AND COMMISSIONERS CROMARTY, JAMES, NASH AND PUTMAN VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

It was discussed that staff will return in January with an updated time frame.

5. Staff Updates

Mr. Yaron stated that NAC Commissioner appointments are to occur the first week in December. Nominations are set for Vice Chair Miraldi's first term. Commissioner Meli terms out, with interviews and appointments to take place on December 4th.

A Neighborhood Enhancement event was held last Friday at the Via Linda Senior Center Community Garden. He thanked Commissioner Putman for her time and execution of the project. He provided some photographs of the event. Approximately 50 volunteers assisted with upgrades to the garden, including over 200 plantings and a variety of trees.

Mr. Yaron discussed "Scottsdale Creating a smart city road map," an initiative to explore and identify ways new technology can enhance a community's quality of life (safer roads, shorter commutes, reduced emissions, more engaged and inclusive community, quicker emergency responses). Residents, businesses and community stakeholders are invited to a workshop to learn and provide ideas on Wednesday, December 11th from 5:15 to 7:45 p.m. at Mustang Library.

Mr. Yaron provided a time frame update on Operation Fix It. They will be having a float in this year's Parada Del Sol on February 8th. Commissioners are invited to provide support in whatever way they would like.

The Commission cancelled its December meeting and the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 22nd, 2020. At that meeting, there will be an election of officers for chair and vice chair.

6. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved by Commissioner Cromarty and seconded by Commissioner James, the meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

AYES: Chair Fabiano, Vice-Chair Miraldi, Commissioners James, Nash and Putman

NAYS: None

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